

Hawaii Marine Lifestyles



The first thing that greets customers at the Base Marina's new facility is the retail area where they can buy or rent a range of equipment.

SEEK & SURF

New recreation center for Base Marina opens

**Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. James A. Sauter**
Combat Correspondent

Seven years ago, a project began to build a facility for the Outdoor Recreational and Equipment Center at the Base Marina. The new facility opened its doors for business, Aug. 15, and will have its grand opening in October.

The new facility replaced the old warehouse with a customer-friendly building. Upon entry, it feels welcoming and personable with a fresh smell of everything new in the air. The building has a brand new reception area where customers can be helped in addition to the retail area where customers can either buy or rent various things for a day out on the water.

"The old building that we were working out of just wasn't efficient enough for the work that we were doing," said Bob Barr, Base Marina general manager. "It was basically a storage bin that wasn't customer friendly. This facility is more professional with a friendly counter space and retail area."

An advantage the Base Marina gained from the new building is better accountability of its rental equipment. Customers rent their gear at the front reception area and present a numbered ticket to an attendant in the storage area to receive their equipment.

Customers will also find it appealing that all of the equipment for sale and rent is new. They can rent a range of things, such as new paddleboards, coolers, camping gear, snorkeling gear, sports gear, grills, shave ice mix and popcorn machines, and even a new mountain bike. All of these are available for rent at low prices.

"Another thing we're starting is the retail here," Barr said. "We're starting off small with some drinks and fishing stuff. Just small things that can replace items that someone may have forgotten to bring. Retail is an area that's new to us and we're expanding into it slowly. We hope that we can start providing snacks in addition to the drinks in the future."

Even with the addition of retail items and a new facility, the Base Marina still thrives on providing sailing classes and issuing licenses for customers who want to sail at their convenience. Classes are held year-round and last one week. After five classes and a certain amount of sailing time, customers receive their licenses to sail. Despite the fact that its grand opening is in October, the Base Marina has seen an influx of customers wanting to have fun.

"This place is packed every weekend," said Patricia Matadobra, lead recreationalist and boat instructor. "This new facility has been long overdue but it'll be even better when we have our grand opening."

For more information about the Base Marina, contact 254-7666.



A mountain bike available for rent sits on a rack for customers to see and use at the Base Marina's new facility, which is open for use.



New paddleboards are arranged from highest to lowest price in the retail area of the Base Marina's new facility.



A fleet of boats for rent sit docked at the Base Marina outside its new recreational facility. The facility will have its grand opening in October.

PASS

IN

REVIEW

Your weekly guide to the best aspects of entertainment

Welcome to the Pass In Review, your number one source for cinema, music, video game, book and product reviews. The Pass In Review crew consists of more than 10 critics, each with their own idea of what makes a movie, album, game, product or book great. So be sure to take advantage of the Better Know A Critic section, which spotlights this week’s critics to better help you choose the critic with opinions most like your own. Using our breakthrough four-point scale system, you can quickly decipher what is worth your time and what isn’t, or read the full review for an in-depth analysis and explanation of the rating. The rating system uses ammunition and range terminology, so if you’re not familiar, here’s a quick breakdown of the ratings ...

1/4 — No Impact, No Idea

Horrendous. Among the worst of the worst in its genre. Dedicating time to this is not only wasteful, but unforgivable. Avoid at all costs.

2/4 — High And To The Right

Mediocrity at its best. Lacks a few things that might have made it really good. A decent time waster, partake only if you have nothing better to do.

3/4 — On Target

Praiseworthy. A great endeavor, not quite an instant classic but still very entertaining. This is a sound investment of your time.

4/4 — Confirmed Kill

Genius. In the top 10 percent of its genre. This is the stuff legends are made of. Missing out on it would be a disservice to yourself.

So, there you have it and we hope you enjoy our weekly reviews. Don't forget, The Hawaii Marine accepts submissions from its readers so if you consider yourself a film buff, music aficionado, gaming geek or bookworm, feel free to submit your own reviews.

Better Know A Critic



SAUTER

Lance Cpl. James A. Sauter

looks for that perfect balance between the shooting and role-playing aspects that make the game worthwhile. While not immediately diving into the multi-player titles, he looks for the in-depth story that draws you into the game’s universe like a classic thriller novel or movie.



WONG

Kristen Wong

admits she sometimes has to be dragged to movies that she later finds to be outstanding. She prefers fantasy driven movies, like Lord of the Rings, the Harry Potter films, and The Matrix Trilogy. She owns more movie posters than she has wall space and continues to collect more as she goes. She also loves to summarize all of her favorite movies to curious and unsuspecting folks.

Total war is the way of the Samurai

Lance Cpl. James A. Sauter

Combat Correspondent

If I had to put my finger on a particular genre of video games, it would have to be strategy gaming. I enjoy the small-scale simplicity of chess but I also enjoy the vast openness and complexity of real-time strategy against opponents on a virtual battlefield. In addition to strategy gaming, I enjoy the in-depth experience of building empires and learning some history at the same time.

I found my appetite for empire in the ever-popular “Total War” computer game franchise when I first played “Rome: Total War” a few years ago. Since then, I’ve played several of the series’ titles, including its latest installment, “Shogun II: Total War.”

The “Total War” series has prided itself on graphics engine innovation and realistic epic battles where

the player, from a god-like perspective, controls thousands of troops on a battlefield. This has been the centerpiece of every game in the series. On the additional campaign map, players assume the role of a historical nation-state and guide it to greatness through conquest, diplomacy, politics, economics and technology.

Not your straightforward “Command and Conquer” game, “Total War” has layered itself with gameplay to create an as-real experience when it comes to building empires. In “Shogun II,” the game designers introduced several proverbs from Sun Tzu’s “Art of War” into the game’s bat-



tles, unlike in previous games where battles are more arcade and linear. At first, this flustered me since I had to start thinking like a Far Eastern military strategist instead of the old European way of viewing war as a gentleman’s game of chess. Also, when commanding troops, the player can zoom into individual fighting between warriors and see realistic hand-to-hand combat and even emotions on troops’ faces.

Every time I sat down to play this game, I would always burn several hours out of the day because there’s so much to manage when it comes to building an empire. Medieval Japan won’t conquer itself so it’s time to take up the sword and either restore the shogunate or see to its destruction as you open Japan to Western powers.



‘The Campaign’ is the BACKBONE of this country!

Kristen Wong

Photojournalist

When I saw the preview for “The Campaign,” I thought it had some potential, though it could easily turn out to be too silly. But I gave it a shot anyway.

For the record, I know nothing about campaigns and am very politically illiterate. But I found this movie to be humorous and well written.

The movie starts out with Cam Brady (Will Ferrell) running for his fifth consecutive term representing the 14th District of North Carolina. He is running unopposed and life is sweet as he makes his rounds giving the same cliché speech to all walks of life — “(insert interest group here) are the backbone of this country!”

Meanwhile, the wealthy corporate Motch brothers, Glenn and Wade (John Lithgow and Dan Aykroyd), are seeking a candidate who will beat Brady and cater to their own selfish interests — doubling their profits by selling the 14th District to China and building a sweatshop of severely underpaid workers in North Carolina.

The Motch brothers recruit kindhearted Marty Huggins (Zack Galifianakis), the local director of the tourism center in the town. Huggins, not knowing the brothers’ true intentions, is eager to make his father proud and work hard to win the race.

The Motch brothers hire Tim Wattlely (Dylan McDermott), a political consultant, to help make

Huggins “not suck.” Wattlely immediately changes Huggins’ image, refurbishing his house, and giving Huggins, his wife and children a makeover. They even replace his beloved dogs (because pugs originated in China, and to the ignorant public in this movie, that means he’s a communist). Brady is annoyed at this new development and will do anything (and I mean anything) to win.

As an animal lover, I did not enjoy the way Huggins’ poor pugs and even his replacement dogs were treated. The pugs were yelled at and shooed out of the house, and the replacement dogs were also abandoned for a time outside of the house. I know it’s just a movie and the dogs were not physically hurt, but it just made me upset to watch.

That being said, I think the movie is worth at least one watch. Do not, I repeat, do not bring your children to this movie. Mr. Brady does not know the meaning of the words “get a room” and there’s a lot



of cursing. I think it makes a statement about political campaigns in general, and although grossly exaggerated, may have some truth to it. The message it sends is that real politicians ought to stick to the issues and choose honesty rather than denial. I’m not saying every politician is untrustworthy, but the movie also points out that everyone has faults, no one is perfect and sometimes doing the right thing takes a lot of guts.

The movie even made me question my own ignorant assumptions as I saw an Asian woman speaking with a stereotypically fake southern drawl or equally fake Hispanic accent for the first time.

Each one of the actors were outstanding in their performances. The portrayal of this small town even brought back memories of the small town where I once lived while attending college. I laughed, I cried and there were times I even had to blink a few times, frown and ask “what the — ?” But all in all, the film is a good one-time deal. I’m Kristen Wong, and I approve this review.



Prices: All shows are \$3.25 for adults and \$2.25 for children. For ticket pricing, the Base Theater Box Office defines an adult as a patron 12 and older and defines a child as a patron from 6 to 11. Children 5 and younger are admitted free of charge. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16 and younger. Patrons must present their military identification card when purchasing tickets. Call 254-7642 for recorded information.



- “Madea’s Witness Protection” PG-13 Today | 7:15 p.m.
- “Magic Mike” R Today | 9:45 p.m.
- “People Like Us” PG-13 Saturday | 7:15 p.m.
- “Seeking a Friend for the End of the World” R Saturday | 9:45 p.m.
- “Madea’s Witness Protection” PG-13 Sunday | 2 p.m.
- “Amazing Spider Man” PG-13 Sunday | 6:30 p.m.
- “Magic Mike ” R Wednesday | 6:30 p.m.

New Cub Scouts Join The Pack

Members and new recruits of Cub Scout Pack 225 fill up their water guns during a recruitment event at Riseley Field, Saturday. The pack recruited more than 40 new scouts and held a water fun day.



Nadine Freiburger | Courtesy photo

Education Fair at Mokapu Mall today

Kristen Wong
Photojournalist

Members of the Marine Corps Base Hawaii community who are exploring opportunities for further education can attend the Education Fair at Mokapu Mall, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m today. The biannual fair is hosted by the Education Center, which is currently entering its 40th year, since opening in 1972. The education fair is open to active duty service members, retirees, reservists, family members, and Department of Defense civilians. The fair is scheduled to feature many different representatives, including those from 15 on-base colleges and universities, such as Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Hawaii Pacific University and National University. Representatives from the base library, School Liaison Office, Troops to Teachers and the National Testing

Center will be available to answer questions. Those attending the fair can find information about financial aid, including Federal Student Aid, the G.I. Bill and Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts. Caron Ferguson, an education and career specialist with the Education Center, said the education fair is fitting for personnel who are not sure what educational programs or benefits they want to pursue. “They’re all going to be in one place at one time,” Ferguson said. “It’s a good opportunity to shop around and see what’s available in terms of the programs on base. Personnel can major in a wide range of programs from business, criminal justice, computer science, psychology, aeronautical maintenance, diplomacy and military studies to homeland security and math. This time around, there is also an exciting new minor program in unmanned aerial systems.” Each fiscal year, an active duty

service member is allotted up to \$4,500 to spend on tuition assistance, which they must use within the year or forfeit. During fiscal year 2011, approximately \$1.9 million in tuition assistance was processed aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, with more than 1,700 of the base’s Marines taking advantage of the assistance. Ferguson said many of the on-base and online colleges and universities are able to accept transfer credits from other schools including the Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript. “The schools really work with the service members,” Ferguson said. “They maximize the nontraditional credits that service members have to get them on the fast track toward a degree.” The next semester for on-base university classes is Oct. 1. Service members have the option of taking a five-week or 10-week course at one of the universities located on base.

There are also various programs including United Services Military Apprenticeship Program and the Military Academic Skills Program, which service members can take to help further their education. The Education Center also offers College Level Examination Program and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support Subject Standardized tests. These 90-minute tests are given every Thursday between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. and Mondays between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Students can potentially earn credits from taking the CLEP and DSST tests. Staff members at the Education Center are available for one-on-one counseling sessions with service members. The Education Center is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in building 220. For more information about the Education Center, call Ferguson at 257-2158.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

KANEOHE — Workers with Habbitat, a local substance abuse rehabilitation facility, help to unload several boxes of donated food gathered by the Hawaii nonprofit organization Aloha Harvest. The organization takes donations from several local businesses, including K-Bay Garden restaurant at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The base restaurant regularly donates rice, noodles and other high-quality foods to Aloha Harvest, who then distributes the fresh food to other nonprofit organizations the very same day. Aloha Harvest delivers food to 150 agencies and helps feed more than 48,339 people each month.



Photos by Christine Cabalo | Hawaii Marine



Hawaii Fi-Do helping people heal

Theresa Donnelly
Hawaii Military Pets

As the science delves deeper into the therapeutic benefits of service dogs to alleviate physical and emotional trauma, one group in Hawaii is making a tremendous difference for people and their canine best friends.

Founded in 1999 by Susan Luehrs, a former special education teacher, the not-for-profit Hawaii Fi-Do trains assistance dogs to provide physical, psychological and therapeutic support for people who face the daily challenges of life with a disability.

They run the only certified service dog training center on the island and offer educational outreach in schools, visiting patients in hospitals, and they work with Hawaii’s wounded warriors in collaboration with the Army and Marine Corps.

The group raises the dogs as puppies to ensure they have the necessary behaviors to perform as service dogs, using extensive health tests to make sure the dogs they place in a home live a long and productive life, providing comfort and support for their owners. It takes approximately two years and \$20,000 to train a service dog. Luehrs has the help of about 20 volunteers to assist with raising puppies, training sessions and other program operations.

More than 50 dogs are assisting owners because of Hawaii Fi-Do, but through the group’s educational outreach, hundreds more are positively impacted.

“The community is always supportive and because our awareness has increased, we have more of a demand for the dogs. So donations are vital, and it’s the only way we can continue our work,” said Luehrs.

Recently, the group has been getting much-deserved attention, gracing the cover of The Honolulu Star-Advertiser’s Midweek Magazine in July with a feature story on their wounded warrior program. And as part of International Service Dog Week, Aug. 6 through 10, the team got to meet with Hawaii Sen. Suzanne Chun-Oakland, who presented them with an official proclamation from Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie.

“It was great to be recognized by the state with the proclamation and another wonderful way to educate the public on service dogs,” said Luehrs.

Earlier this year, they got the chance to see the group in action performing a training session at Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s Wounded Warrior Battalion West — Detachment Hawaii. Luehrs facilitated the training with the help of Marie Selarque from Pro-Dog Hawaii and a handful of Marines who worked with the dogs on basic socialization skills dogs, helping them get ready for their new owners.

“I am grateful for the things Hawaii Fi-Do has given me. My dog, Sadie, along with the help of Hawaii Fi-Do, has given me the opportunity to face challenges posed in front of me. It has helped cope with issues and life changes,” said Sgt. Rafael Cervantes.

It’s everyday heroes like Luehrs and her team that remind us of what a difference we can make in the lives of others and animals.

“This organization is one that I support and would recommend to anyone with physical or psychological disabilities,” said Cervantes.

To donate, volunteer as a puppy raiser, or to get more information, please visit their website, or “like” their page on Facebook.



Photo courtesy of Hawaii Fi-Do

HONOLULU — Hawaii State Sen. Suzanne Chun-Oakland, *(kneeling second from left)*, presents a proclamation from Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie recognizing Assistance Dogs Week to Hawaii Fi-Do service dogs and their volunteers at her office, Aug. 7. Abercrombie proclaimed International Service Dog Week in the State of Hawaii.



Nathalie Walker | Midweek

Cpl. Clifford Sandy, a Marine with Wounded Warrior Battalion West — Detachment Hawaii, and Lani the black labrador were drawn to each other immediately. His wife Jamie credits the pooch for saving her husband and their marriage.